

months. This register should be examined by the Peishkars and the Land Revenue Commissioner in the course of their inspections. The Tahsildar when visiting the *pakuthies* should make independent and confidential enquiries about the *pakuthi* officials; and their reports should be embodied in their diaries and reviewed by the Peishkars. The pay should be increased and suitable men recruited. The Peishkars should also look into these things during their *jamabandi* inspections.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Sultan Mohideen, there has been a good deal of smoke in what you have said, but I have a suspicion that there may be just a little fire also underlying it. All these matters will receive consideration. But referring to a remark of yours regarding that sprite, I must tell you straight that, of the ways of Kuttichattan, Government have no knowledge.

#### 12. Concessional registry of lands.

MR. AIYAN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) represented that about 75 per cent. of the lands earmarked for assignment to members of the depressed classes were unfit either for purposes of cultivation or for habitation. This was the reason why any considerable number of Pulayas and others had not freely availed themselves of the concession. Survey Nos. 776/1 P. and 778/1 were mentioned as instances in point. It was therefore suggested that lands useful for cultivation should alone be earmarked for the purpose in order that the full benefit of the policy of concessional registry might accrue to the members of his community.

He then requested that certain lands, particulars of which are given below, might be registered in the names of the members of the depressed classes:—

- (a) The portion of the reserved forest comprised in Survey Nos. 441/1 to 444/10 in the Ottasekharamangalam *pakuthi*, Neyyattinkara taluk.
- (b) A portion of 300 acres of land comprised in Survey No. 185/1 in Porvazhi *pakuthi*, Kunnattur taluk.
- (c) All *tarisu* lands not earmarked for registry on concessional terms, on which Pulayas and Parayas have already entered upon for cultivation.

The Member also made the following suggestions:—

- (1) The Sirkar Vakil may be directed to conduct on behalf of the members of the depressed classes law suits for the recovery of lands encroached upon by their neighbours, or as an alternative, the court fees required for such suits might be dispensed with.
- (2) Occupation, by others, of lands earmarked for depressed classes should be vacated.
- (3) A burial ground in Trivandrum town for the use of the Pulayas should be provided.
- (4) Registry should be ordered of one acre of land in every taluk for the Hindu Pulayas to erect temples.
- (5) As the Protector of Depressed classes could not find time in the midst of his other official work to devote his entire attention to the needs of the depressed classes, he should either be divested of his other official work, or a separate officer to look after the interests of the depressed classes should be appointed.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Aiyam Kali, on the general subject of *puduvai* lands to depressed classes, you will find that I have touched in my address delivered yesterday.

2. In the matter of burial grounds, your suggestion will receive the sympathetic consideration of the Government without delay.

#### 13. Sambavars and registry of lands.

MR. P. YESUDIAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the needs of the Sambavars were two-fold; firstly, the assignment of ten cents of building site and secondly, of 3 acres of arable land for each family. The complaint was that the lands earmarked for these purposes were unfit, as they were either

malarial (e. g. Survey No. 6354 in Kotanallur *Pakuthi*), very costly for improvement (e. g. Survey No. 4406/26/A in Katiapattanam *Pakuthi*), rocky (e. g. Survey No. 2380 in Alur *Pakuthi*) or situated far into the interior of forests (e. g. Survey No. 2818 in Tripparappu *Pakuthi*). The Government were therefore confronted with two difficulties ; there was a large demand for land which had not been earmarked and little for those which had been earmarked. It was therefore suggested that the local *Proverthikar*, Tahsildar and the secretaries of the Sambavar Sangham should select the lands. Those lands which the Sambavars had already colonised, *puduvals* and *porambokes* about their colonies, roadside *puduvals* and *porambokes*, *puduval* lands within Municipal limits, etc., should be set apart for building sites, and *puduvals* and *porambokes* in the interior, backwaters not useful otherwise, useless tanks, low lands, swamps, etc., for purposes of cultivation.

Speaking on the methods of colonisation, the Member suggested that Sambavar colonies of 50 to 100 families should be established in a locality, each family having 10 cents of ground for building. If need be, the land required should be acquired by the Government by purchase, the value being recovered from the families in six annual instalments. Grants for the sinking of wells at the rate of Rs. 350 a well should be made, as the sum of Rs. 100 allowed at present was very inadequate. Wages at half rates should also be allowed for earthwork in respect of approach roads to Sambavar villages. The difficulties experienced by the Sambavars related to (i) the system of auction of lands which might be registered on concessional terms (ii) the troubles at the hands of neighbouring land-owners, (iii) survey charges, (iv) fines on encroachments, (v) *taravila*, (vi) stamp duty and (vii) *tadivila*. These difficulties should be removed by the Government. The delay in the disposal of applications for lands was also pointed out and it was suggested that no Tahsildar should keep an application pending for over three months and that in the cases of applications rejected, an endorsement to that effect should be given without insisting on the levy of copying fees. A quarterly statement showing the action taken on applications for registry of land and a list of the remaining applications on which no action was taken together with the reasons therefor should be published. Reports made by the *Proverthikars* on applications for the assignment of lands to members of depressed classes should in the first instance pass through the Protector of Depressed classes, the sketch and *mahazar* in respect of the lands applied for being prepared by the *Proverthikar* in company with the secretary of the Sambavar Sangham.

The other suggestions were (i) certain changes in the organisation of the Sambavar Elevation Committees and (ii) the constitution of Sambavar Land Colonisation Committees. In respect of the former, the Member desired that the committee should be invested with certain powers for the registry of *puduval* lands, that Mr. D. C. Joseph should be removed from that Committee and that the secretaries of the Sambavar Sangham should have powers to appoint the members on the Committee. As regards the latter, it was suggested that there should be one secretary of the Sambavar Sangham in each Division and that the Sambavar Land Colonisation Committee should consist of seven members.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Yesudian, the particular cases you have cited will be carefully enquired into.

\* 2. As regards your general suggestions and requests, they will all be considered.

#### 14. Registry of lands for Cardamom cultivation.

MR. S. P. SULTAN AHMED BADRUDDIN ROWTHER (*Member, Nominated*) represented the difficulties experienced by the cardamom cultivators for want of sufficient land and complained that the rules passed in 1091 regarding the registry of lands for cardamom cultivation went against those passed in 1081 and affected the cardamom cultivators adversely without benefiting the Government or any class of persons. The difficulties of the cardamom ryots arose from the fact that lands now available for cardamom cultivation would be exhausted in a decade and that replantation on the same lands would be possible only after a period of five years during which the ryots could find no means of livelihood on account of the